

APR 18 2007

First Named Inventor: Shusaku Shibasaki

Application No.: 10/521,539

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REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action mailed January 18, 2007. It is being filed concurrently with a Notice of Appeal and a Pre-Appeal Brief Request For Review.

The purpose of the present Amendment is to address the objection to the drawings and the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 with respect to claims 4 and 8-10.

The amendments to claims 8-10 remove the word "radially", and add the word "of" after "thickness". These changes address both the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as well as the objection to the drawings. The innermost or top coil is tapered so that its thickness varies to create a substantially flat contact surface 36. Similarly, the outermost or bottom coil has a thickness that varies so as to create a substantially flat bottom surface 38. Both are shown in FIG. 2. By removing the word "radially", any confusion regarding the varying thickness has been eliminated.

The addition of the word "of" in each of claims 8-10 addresses the grammatical concerns recited in the Office Action.

With respect to claim 4, the language is to clarify to state that the cross-section of the coil element has an arcuate outer surface. The arcuate outer surface can be seen in FIG. 2. This language clarifies that "arcuate" refers to the outer surface at the cross-section. This language reads on both a circular cross-section as shown in FIG. 2 and described in paragraphs 0009 and 0025, as well as an oval cross-section, which is also described in paragraph 0025.

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The purpose of these amendments is to reduce the issues for appeal, by resolving all issues other than the rejection of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103. It is requested that the amendments be entered for the purposes of the Pre-Appeal Brief Request For Review and the appeal of the rejection based upon 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: April 18, 2007

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